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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Applicant(s): Valerio VERNOCCHI, et al. | ) Re: Preliminary Amendment   |
|   | )                             |
| U.S. Appln. No.: not yet assigned       | )                             |
|   | ) Group: not yet assigned     |
|   | )                             |
| U.S. Filing Date: concurrently herewith | ) Examiner: not yet assigned  |
|   | )                             |
| International Application No:           | )                             |
| PCT/IB2004/052883                       | )                             |
| International Filing Date:              | )                             |
| 21 December 2004                        | ) Our Ref: B-6069PCT 623603-1 |
|   | )                             |
| For: "MODULE WITH NON-DEFORMABLE        | )                             |
| SUPPORT FOR FILTER SEPTA AND            | )                             |
| MEMBRANE TYPE FILTER ELEMENTS"          | ) Date: July 13, 2006         |

MAIL STOP PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the above-identified U.S. patent application without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.